

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to bulkhead adapters for optically connecting two strands of optical fibers and including a length of optical fiber within the adapter for attenuating signals passing from one fiber to the other. The attenuation optical fiber is held within an attenuation hub inside the housing of the adapter. Attenuation of optical fiber signals transmitted through the adapter may be provided by the optical fiber, by an offset fusion of two optical fibers, by an airgap between two optical fiber segments, by the inclusion of a filter between two optical fiber segments, or by other structures.

When an optical fiber with a connector is inserted into the adapter, the optical fiber is placed in optical contact with the attenuation optical fiber of the attenuation hub. The adapter can be inserted through an opening in a bulkhead so that optical fiber from one side of the bulkhead can be attached to optical fiber on the second side of the bulkhead.